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M E M O R A N D U M



SDMS DocID 269900

SUBJECT: Air Monitoring Iron Horse Park

TO: John Fitzgerald, Northeast Region

THRU: Donald B. Steele

FROM: Thomas McGrath, AQSB *TM*

DATE: August 13, 1985

The following is a proposal for an air monitoring program to be conducted in Iron Horse area of Billerica for the week of August 19-23. The program attempts to address the concerns of the residents while keeping within the available resources.

A comprehensive study will require the cooperation of the surrounding community. It will be necessary to obtain access to AC electric power at several locations. This will not only allow us to sample at several locations simultaneously, but will also allow us to evaluate population exposure. At any rate, the power consumption of the samplers is negligible and the sample periods will run for six to eight hours.

Volatile organic compounds will be sampled for using a small sampling shelter which contains a pump and stainless steel sampling tube containing special absorbing media. Samples will be analyzed the week of August 26-30 at Lawrence Experimental Station using a gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer.

Special gridded filters will be used to sample for asbestos. These will be analyzed by a private laboratory using a microscope. Two filters will be analyzed using the scanning electron microscopic method.

I have selected different sampling locations with specific objectives in mind. I have also plotted a tentative schedule for this sampling.

I plan to sample for both VOCs and asbestos at a residential location as close to the corner of Sumac and Pond Streets as possible. This is the closest downwind residential location to the asbestos landfill. I plan to perform this sampling on Monday and Tuesday. I would also like to perform VOC monitoring at the Hajaar School on these days. I will attempt to park on the actual asbestos landfill with the Winnebago during these two days and sample for asbestos. On Monday, a battery pump VOC sample will be taken in the vicinity of the Boston and Maine lagoon. This heavy sampling schedule during the first two days may encourage some flexibility during the rest of the week.

On Wednesday, I will concentrate on obtaining asbestos samples at the Pond Street gate and in the woods between the landfill and the residential area. On Thursday the area near the Shaffer landfill can be addressed. In addition, the Winnebago can be parked in an area, downwind of the General Latex facility for VOC sampling. A home on Grey Street would provide a good location for VOC sampling downwind of the landfill. There

are also plans to obtain an air sample directly from one of the test wells on the land fill.

Friday must be reserved for background samples. Sampling for VOCs and asbestos must be performed in another Billerica location, not influenced by the industrial park. Blanks must also be supplied to the analytical laboratories.

I have attempted to design the most comprehensive program that the available resources allow.. This proposed program would have to be curtailed if access to sampling locations and AC power is limited. The monitoring schedule is also influenced by weather conditions and equipment function. Access to the VOC analytical equipment is limited to the period mentioned above, although some sampling can be postponed to early in the following week.

I will consider any constructive input to the monitoring plan and if there are any questions, please contact me at the Tewksbury Laboratory.

cc: Stephen Dennis, DAQC  
Michael Maher, Northeast Region

